

2012 NIH Global Doctoral Program Newsletter



NIH ^{ox} Oxford ^{ox} Cambridge Scholars Program



NIH MD | PhD
Partnership Training Program

National Institutes of Health
Intramural Research Program



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the Directors' newsletter for the NIH Global Doctoral Program, which includes the **NIH Oxford-Cambridge Scholars**, the **MD/PhD Partnership Training**, and the **Wellcome Trust-NIH PhD Studentship** programs. Last year we celebrated the 10th and 5th anniversaries of the **OxCam** and **MD/PhD** programs, respectively, and the 4th anniversary of the **Wellcome Trust** program. Over the course of 2011 and into 2012, there have been many exciting changes as the programs continue to grow and evolve.

With nearly 100 active students and over 80 graduates from these programs, we are looking forward to formally welcoming the 2012 scholars at the spring colloquium in Oxford.



2011 NIH Scholar Mentor Annual Colloquium Group Photo

News

There have been several administrative changes over the past year. After their dedicated service to both the **OxCam** and **MD/PhD** programs, the program founders, Drs. Michael Lenardo and Richard Siegel, have stepped down from their positions as directors and are now focusing on advising the International Biomedical Research Alliance founded by Steve McLean and managed by Randi Balletta. The Alliance assures the financial viability of the **NIH-Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program** by supporting many important activities including student education, scholarships and the annual research colloquium. Drs. Lenardo and Siegel are also serving as Senior Advisors to the **OxCam** management team.

After many years of dedicated service to the program, **Bridget Lampert** has moved on to a new position within NIAID. We all wish her the best of luck in her new position.

Leadership is now being provided by **Dr. Thomas Wynn** (NIAID), the new Director of the **OxCam Program**, **Dr. Craig Blackstone** (NINDS), the new Director of the **MD/PhD Partnership Training Program**, and **Dr. Rick Fairhurst** (NIAID), the new Deputy Director of the **MD/PhD Partnership Training Program**. **Dr. Jim Sellers** (NHLBI) has accepted the role of **OxCam Program** Academic Dean. The program has also welcomed the new Director of Student Affairs, **Dr. Matthew Vogt**, and a new Managing Director, **Ms. Katie Soucy**.

We are pleased to announce that the **NIH-Wellcome Trust PhD Program** has been renewed for an additional five years, under the directorship of **Drs. Daniel Douek** (Director) and **Jason Brenchley** (Deputy Director). Within this program, students from the European Union who have outlined a well-defined, collaborative project co-supervised by an NIH mentor and a UK mentor apply for a four-year program of study towards a PhD at any University in the UK or Republic of Ireland. The four-year period is split equally between the UK University and the NIH. Five applicants are chosen each year. The WT funds tuition and stipend during the students' time in the UK. The NIH faculty are encouraged to reach out to UK collaborators to identify well qualified students.

<http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov/prospectiveStudents/NIH-WellcomeTrustProgram.asp>

Scholar Updates

- The scholars have been very productive over the last year, collectively publishing over 45 papers in several top-tier journals. The continued success of the scholars is a testament to their hard work and dedication to advancing biomedical research. We are all grateful for the support and guidance they receive from their mentors, which ensures that the **OxCam** Program remains one of the premier PhD and MD/PhD training programs in the world. Notable papers include:
 - **T. Grant Belgard's** (OxCam) cover article in *Neuron*
 - **Feng-Yen Li's** (MD/PhD) article in *Nature*
 - **Mateusz Macielewski's** (Wellcome) article in *Biochemistry*
 - **Lisa Bond's** (OxCam) article in *Molecular Biology of the Cell*
 - **Derek Narendra's** (OxCam & MD/PhD) commentary in *Nature*
 - **Madhav Sukumaran's** (OxCam & MD/PhD) two articles in *EMBO Journal*
 - **Roseanne Zhao** (OxCam) article in *Immunity*
- So far in this academic year, 14 scholars have successfully defended their thesis and are taking a post-doctoral position or returning to medical school to complete or begin their clinical training. Congratulations to these students:

- **Keriann Backus** - NIAID and Oxford
 - **T Grant Belgard** - NHGRI and Oxford
 - **Lisa Bond** - NHLBI and Cambridge
 - **Ethan Buch** - NINDS and Oxford
 - **Cynthia Chang** - NIAMS and Oxford
 - **Rebecca Chodroff** - NHGRI and Oxford
 - **Chibawayne Ene** - NCI and Cambridge
 - **Elizabeth Maynes** - NICHD and Oxford
 - **Derek Narendra** - NINDS and Cambridge
 - **Giang Huong Nguyen** - NCI and Oxford
 - **Kathering Patzel** - NHGRI and Oxford
 - **Molly Perkins** - NIAID and Oxford
 - **Shivang Shah** - NIAID and Oxford
 - **Roseanne Zhao** - NHGRI and Cambridge
- **Feng-Yen Li** won the Harold M. Weintraub Graduate Student Award and **Derek Narendra** won the University of Michigan Medical School Dean's Award for Research Excellence this year.
 - The 2011 entering **OxCam** class includes 17 scholars dedicated to pursuing biomedical research. Eleven students had at least 1 published paper in advance of their initial interview. The class included several scholarship recipients: 1 Rhodes, 1 Marshall, 1 Churchill, 1 Gates and 1 Keasby scholar. Detailed information on our latest scholars, as well as previous scholars, can be found at the website: <http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov/mentorsAdvisors/currentCohort.asp>



2011 Class Photo

- The **MD/PhD Partnership Training Program** added three new students who are currently in medical school and will begin their PhD research in 2013.
- The **Wellcome Trust Program** accepted six new scholars this year who will train at various UK universities, such as University of Southampton, University College London, Imperial College, University of Leeds and the University of Surrey.
- **Dr. Roy Vagelos** hosted a Mentoring Day during the 2011 Annual Colloquium at the NIH. This event featured returning program alumni who shared with the current students their experiences and many successes after graduating. The panel included **Drs. Paul Tesar** (Assistant Professor, Case Western Reserve University), **Jean Lee** (medical school, Albert Einstein College of Medicine), **Adrian Lobito** (Scientist, Catalyst Biosciences), **Jon Roiser** (Lecturer, University College London), **Tom Johnson** (medical school at JHU) and **Ambika Bumb** (post-doctoral fellow, NHLBI).
- During the 2011 Scholar-Mentor Colloquium Banquet, the NIH Director, **Dr. Francis Collins**, treated attendees to a special welcoming musical performance. We were also pleased to have Nobel Laureate, **Dr. Peter Agre**, as the keynote speaker, who shared his life experiences and insights with the scholars and their mentors.
- Supported by the International Biomedical Research Alliance, **OxCam** scholars **Mark Ziats, Inn Inn Chen, Jenny Dworzak, Giang Huong Nguyen, Nicholas McBride, Michael Tee, Matthew Biancalana, Adam Knight**, and **Wellcome Trust** scholar **Paul Myers** attended the Lasker Awards in New York City and discussed their research with the award winners at a special breakfast meeting.
- The 2012 Annual Scholar-Mentor Colloquium was held on June 20 and 21 at the University of Oxford, Keble College. The keynote speakers this year were **Drs. David Baltimore** and **Alice Huang**.

A special thanks to...

The mentors at both the NIH and UK Universities for their continued support of the scholars.

The NIH Scientific Directors for their continued and enthusiastic support of the **OxCam** scholars. We are particularly grateful to **Dr. Kathy Zoon** for her guidance and support in helping the programs achieve their goal of training the next generation of scientists.

Professor Richard Cornall and **Sarah Noujaim** at The University of Oxford and **Professor Ken Smith, Karina Prasad** and **Elizabeth McIntyre** at The University of Cambridge for all their hard work and unwavering support of the scholars.

Our class deans for the time and effort they spend mentoring and advising the students during their 4 years in the program. The students, directors and administrative staff greatly appreciate the long-term commitment they have made in helping the students become better scientists and making these programs successful.

- 2007 - **Drs. John Hanover** and **Tracey Rouault**

Their last official review was conducted in the fall of 2011. We look forward to seeing their students thrive in their new roles.

- 2008 **Drs. Carol Thiele** and **Judie Walters**
- 2009 **Drs. Richard Koup** and **Harris Bernstein**
- 2010 **Drs. B.J. Fowlkes** and **David Margulies**
- 2011 **Drs. Rick Fairhurst** and **Kuan-Teh Jeang**

The **Wellcome Trust**, especially **Dr. Candace Hassall** and **Louise Williams**, for continued support of NIH-based program.

The MD/PhD advisory board and **Dr. Peter Preusch**, Program Director for the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), and **Lori Burge**, Grants Management Team Leader (NIGMS), for supporting the training of the MD/PhD scholars.

The many heads of the Scholarship organizations including **Mary Denyer** of the *Marshall Aid Commemoration Society*, **Peter Patrikis** of the *Winston Churchill Foundation*, **Elliot Gerson** of *The Rhodes Trust*, and **Jim Smith** of the *Gates-Cambridge Trust* for generously supporting our students.

The Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES), especially **Dr. Ted Becker**, for continued support and assistance for the Scholars and the programs.

Stephen McLean and the **International Biomedical Research Alliance** for supporting the programs and enhancing the training experiences of the scholars. We are pleased to welcome **Randi Balletta** who helps to organize social training events for students. Some of the events sponsored by the Alliance included the monthly student seminar series *Frontiers in Biosciences*, Mentoring Day, Scholar Summer BBQ, scholar attendance at the Lasker Awards and special events during the Annual Colloquium.

And finally, a very special “thank you” to **Dr. Ron Schwartz** for his 10 years of dedicated guidance and support as the founding Academic Dean of the **OxCam** program. Ron stepped down from his position this spring as he prepares for NIH retirement later this year.

Upcoming News and Events

We are excited to welcome the new 2012 Class Deans, **Drs. Kenton Swartz** (NINDS) and **Kanta Subbarao** (NIAID). This year's class of scholarship recipients included 2 Gates-Cambridge, 2 Marshall, 1 Cambridge International and 1 HHMI Gilliam scholar. More information can be found at: <http://oxcam.gpp.nih.gov/mentorsAdvisors/Classof2012.asp>



2012 Entering Class

This Fall a new housing option will be available to all the Scholars. Some of the scholars will be able to rent a room in one of two on-campus houses that were once reserved for use by the NIH Director and the U.S. Surgeon General. Thanks to **Dr. Michael Gottesman**, NCI, Office of Research Facilities, and FAES for help in organizing this new initiative.